

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

~~Claim 1.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A filter, in particular for the separation of leucocytes from further blood components, comprising an outer sheath, ~~comprising~~ at least one intermediate layer which is a component of a frame or which forms a frame, ~~comprising~~ an inlet chamber[[],] ~~which is~~ in communication with an inlet for ~~the~~ a medium to be filtered, and an outlet chamber[[],] ~~which is~~ in communication with an outlet for ~~the~~ a filtrate, ~~and comprising~~ a filter material which separates the inlet chamber from the outlet chamber[[],] ~~characterized in that the filter material and~~ which is encompassed between the outer sheath and the intermediate layer, a first inwardly disposed welding seam which connects the filter material to the intermediate layer and to the outer sheath, and a second outwardly disposed welding seam which connects the intermediate layer to the outer sheath.

~~Claim~~ 2. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the outer sheath is made of flexible material.

~~Claim~~ 3. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the outer sheath ~~consists of two parts, in particular foils, which are~~ comprises a first foil and a second foil welded to one another, and wherein the filter material is encompassed between one of ~~these parts~~ the foils and the intermediate layer.

~~Claim~~ 4. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the filter material is encompassed between the outer sheath on ~~the~~ an inlet side and the intermediate layer.

~~Claim~~ 5. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the filter material is welded to the outer sheath and to the intermediate layer.

~~Claim~~ 6. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer ~~consists is~~ constructed of flexible material.

~~Claim~~ 7. (Canceled)[[:]]

~~Claim 8.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer has one or more apertures which connect ~~the marginal~~ a region of the filter material encompassed in the frame to at least one of the inlet chamber ~~or~~ and the outlet chamber.

~~Claim 9.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 7 8, wherein the apertures are arranged in a region between the first and second welding seams.

~~Claim 10.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein a plurality of intermediate layers are provided.

~~Claim 11.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the filter material is elliptic in shape in ~~it's~~ plan view.

~~Claim 12.~~ (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the inlet ~~consists of~~ includes a stub which is welded to the outer sheath and which has ~~two limbs~~ which are a first limb and a second limb arranged at right angles to one another, ~~and of which~~ with the limb welded to the outer sheath ~~extends~~ extending substantially perpendicular from the outer sheath.

~~Claim~~ 13. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the outlet ~~consists of~~ includes a cylindrical stub which is welded to at least one of the outer sheath ~~and/or to~~ and the intermediate layer and ~~whose~~ which has a longitudinal axis extends extending in a plane ~~which extends~~ parallel to ~~the~~ a plane formed by the filter material and ~~is being~~ offset with respect to ~~it~~ the plane of the filter material.

~~Claim~~ 14. (Currently amended)[[:]] A The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the filter material is pressed ~~or~~ needled.

15. (New) The filter in accordance with claim 1, wherein the filter material is needled.